Government by Refrigeration---Cooling Congress and the President. Unique Cold Weather Canneries Used to Make Them Comfortable

Tests Now Being Made by Government-Fighting Hot Weather With Fire-The More Coal Burned the More Cold Produced-Rooms Chilled by Snowclad Radiators-Unique Cooling Plant Devised to Make Taft Comfortable-Capitol Now to Have Seventy-Two-Thousand-Dollar Plant-No More Extra Summer Session Terrors-Cold Waves Always on Tap-Application to Office Buildings, Hospitals, Theatres and Private Residences-Experiments Explained by Physicist in Charge.

BY JOHN ELFRETH WATKINS.
Washington, D. C., August 10.—Sizzards, like his satanic majesty, can best be fought with fire.
This the physicists of Uncle Sam are proving by a series of experiments, just now most seasonable, timely and apropos.

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They are banishing heat with flame—are burning coal to produce cold. And, unfortunately, they are discovering that it requires more coal to cool cooms than to heat them.

Paradoxical as all this may sound, it is none the less true. I have just apent a half day with the men who are doing this interesting work—developing the fine art of keeping cool.

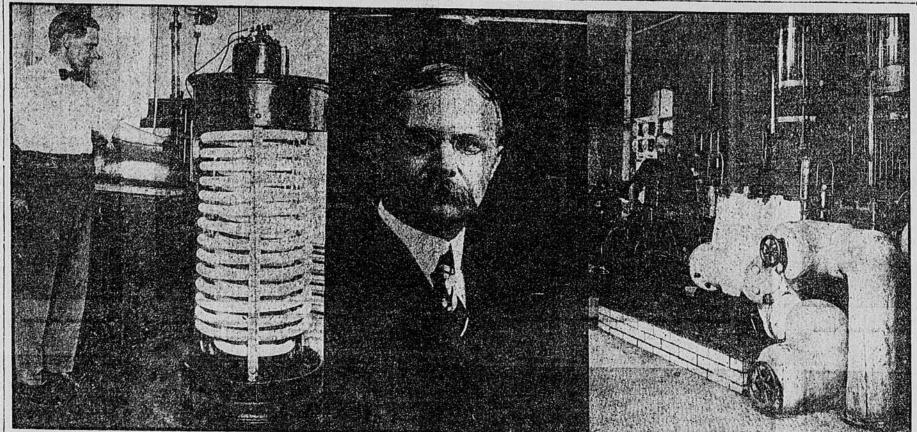
My attention had been called to this enterprise by the announcement that \$72,000 was to be expended in cooling the Senate and House wings of the Capitol by a system under investigation at the National Burcau of Standards, and to this great institution I hied myself, to be received by Dr. Samuel W Stratton, the director. Immediately he had me unhered in to Professes Edward B. Rosa, the chief ohysiciat of the bureau.

Beads of perspiration stood out upon the content of the worker.

Beads of perspiration stood out upon my brow when I entered Professor Rosa's domain, and my collar was witted, while my cuffs were fast melting. But the physicist invited me into a room where the climate was as satubrious as a baimy day in mid-october. Here I proceeded to wax cool and inquisitive.

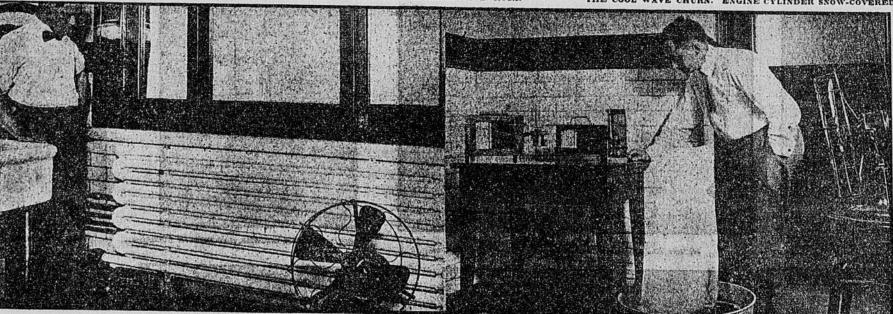
An ermine mantle of snow covered a radiator against the wall, and against this coil of pipes—like the steam radiator which heats us in winter—an electric fan was blowing its breath, which came off chill and bracing. The windows were down to keep out the draught—the hot draft, he it known, the enervating debilitating fumes of mid-summer.

A big cooling stove set up in an-



PROFESSOR EDWARD B. ROSA

THE COOL WAVE CHURN. ENGINE CYLINDER SNOW-COVERED





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Odrier than that which the fan would deliver were the ice not in the path of the breeze."

It was at this point that I was ushered into the room where the tests were being made with the fan and ice. Here are in progress careful measurements to determine the exact amount of ice needed for given amounts of cooling and drying of the air, and the apparatus measuring the fall of tempsture and humidity record themselves upon moving paper bands.

Refrigerating the President

President Taft cools himself by this system, somewhat elaborated. Directly under his office room there is an ice lox twelve feet square and eight feet deep. Into this two or three tons of ice are placed, on racks, each summer day that he works in this room. A big electric blower carries the outside air through this chest, where the heat and humidity are reduced, and thence upward through ducts to registers opening into the room where the chief executive does his work.

For hospital wards the ideal device is what I termed the "cooling stove"—a sheet-iron cylinder about four and one-half feet high, grated about the top and bottom. Inside is a 100-foot coil of one-inch iron pipe, up through which an electric fan sucks the air, which enters hot and humid at the bottom, but comes out cold and dry at the top. While standing near this cool-wave churn I positively shivered. It received its brine from the central plant.

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The problem of the cooling hotel bed-The problem of the cooling hotel bedrooms is complex, according to Profesors Rosa, because of the irregularity of their occupancy. It would be extravagant to keep the chilled bring circulating in all at once if only half of them, say, were occupied, and the question of keeping windows down would further complicate matters. But the cooling of hotel dining rooms and parlors is perfectly feasible. Hotels which now operate five to ten ton machines for chilling foods and wines could probably cool their entire interiors by installing fifty to 100-ton plants. Compared with that of hotels, the problem is simple in theatres, where one single space is to be cooled.

A millionaires wasness could read.

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A millionaire's mansion could readily be refrigerated by the \$9,000 plant mentioned, but the cost of fuel and attendants would be greater than to heat the same house in winter—for, as we said, it takes more coal to produce cold than to create heat. Nor could the same radiators used for heating be employed for cooling, on account of the necessity of drip pans. An installation for the "indirect system" mentioned could actually be used for both heating and cooling, but separate radiators would, after all, be cheaper in the end.

Central plants may in the future pipe chilled brine, as they now do steam, to communities, but, the cost of such a system would be prohibitory, save in exceptional cases. After all the cost of refrigerating human habitations, both great and small, will depend upon the cost of fuel, for, as said at the outset, we can best fight with fire both hot weather and the devil, which, I wish to remark, are the same.

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How to Make a Real



